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GARDENSIDE GOSSIP

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EUPHORBIA POLYCHROMA.

To the best of our knowledge, there is no friendly sort of common name given to this plant, but there should be. Some of the botanists even insist that it should be called *Euphorbia epithymoides*. And the common family name, is Spurge.

But if you'll recall that this is a close relative of the showy Poinsettia, that its flowers are very similar, in that the true flower is a tiny yellow disc, at the center of a cluster of soft yellow leaves or bracts, you'll feel a bit of interest stirring, we hope. For the plant is one of the chief attractions of the early spring garden or rockery. It blossoms almost with the Daffodils, and certainly with the Tulips, and when once established it makes a fine clump, a foot across and as much high, with fifty or more flower stems. It is of easy culture in any dry soil, disliking wet feet only. It is best left undisturbed, and is for that reason somewhat slow to get established, tho it is almost never lost from transplanting in early spring. Locate it carefully, for it is permanent, and too, if rigorously cut back after flowering, it will send up new soft grey-blue foliaged, reddish stems, and be good looking all the rest of the year.

FINE YOUNG CLUMPS, to flower this year. 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00.

IMPORTANT. For 1945, our prices include delivery, if the order totals \$5.00 or more. Otherwise, please add 10% to cover costs. On ALL orders, West of the Mississippi River, add 5%, please.

I SOOTHE MY WINTRY SLEEP WITH DREAMS
OF WARMER SUN AND SOFTER RAIN,
AND WAIT TO HEAR THE SOUND OF STREAMS
AND SONGS OF MERRY BIRDS AGAIN.
Whittier.

We can wait with assurance, tho wait we must, for the seasons will roll in spite of anything we may do.

And while you wait for winter to pass and spring to smile on us all again, may this copy of the Gossip soothe you, and smooth over the rougher days with its chat of plants and gardening, for that is as much a reason for sending it to you as is its other message of the things we have to sell for your gardens in the spring and summer days that are surely coming. It is your purchases which make it possible for us to send it to you, and we owe it to you to make it as interesting as possible in the hope that you will continue to justify its existence.

But, since we truly believe that in a garden, and in gardening, we may all gain the strength to carry on thru days of storm, we shall mail it as we can, to interest you if we can, and thus justify it anyway.

TWO OUTSTANDING NOVELTIES.

Both of these plants have been offered by us before, and both have been written about and described. But for the benefit of the newcomers, and because one of them has definitely 'arrived' in the hardy plant world, we must repeat some of the things we have previously said, and perhaps add a few new facts.

It has taken a number of years for our Scabiosa Blue Snowflake to become really popular. We can understand that, for we kept the original plants for several years before we even tried to increase them. Most of the perennial Scabioses have not been truly hardy, nor even long-lived in milder climates than ours. And while there are a number of fine named sorts available abroad, most of those offered here were from seed, even when given varietal names. So that we didn't really expect this one kind to be any better, and paid little attention to it.

The original plants came to us from a garden in Manchester Vermont. It was the one worthwhile seedling in several grown from a packet of seed of unknown source. Mrs. Beckwith, who raised it, wrote that it was hardy with her, and would we care for some divisions to try. Of course we said we did, and when they came we planted them in a single row across a bed in our trial section. There they stayed, and flowered annually for several years. After they had shown up for about the third time, we began to take notice, and decided to take some cuttings. So we cut the entire tops back, took them to the greenhouses, and in the course of getting the cuttings, threw the blooms on the floor. Still, after that treatment, they looked so well, that they were picked up, and placed in water, and a day or two later were taken to our florist, who used them in some work, and paid well for them. That first made us wonder if we had been neglecting something. Then we found that the tiny plants from the cuttings would live thru a winter outside, without unusual protection. Soon we had enough to offer, and the first year brought a mild response, but when we didn't accept an order for fifty, the next year from a well-known landscape architect, she wrote us to say that she had liked it, but apparently it wasn't hardy, else we'd have grown more of it. To prove to her that it was hardy, we have grown more of it ever since, and now we have it growing from the Atlantic to the Pacific Coast, and from Michigan, to Georgia. It gets praise everywhere. Other nurseries are asking for it. On one prominent cut-flower market last summer it was a regular feature, and was in strong demand until the summer flowers (annuals) became plentiful. And any flower that will satisfy a flower merchant after being shipped to market a considerable distance is usually worthwhile.

SCABIOSA BLUE SNOWFLAKE.

A perfectly hardy, easily grown form of *Scabiosa caucasica*. The plant itself is of neat compact habit, with clean dark green foliage, and a sturdy root system, which transplants easily. The growth is by the increasing of the crown, and each new bud which develops, will flower, so that if there is enough room for good development, blossoms may be had from June until severe freezing weather. There is no weediness, nor suckering. The plant is a 'good neighbor' in the border.

The growth is erect, and except in the most exposed places rarely needs support. It may stand to a full three feet, but is usually from 24 to 30 inches tall. The soft blue flowers are perfectly formed, three inches across, and on good stems for cutting. In the garden, it is a showy, but restrained, color mass which helps the more vivid shades nearby. When cut, it is fine in any bouquet, and a generous display alone, will be long remembered. The flower lasts, too, especially if cut in the early part of the day, and just as the first petals open. Used as an accent plant in the mid-border, or massed in considerable numbers, it is equally pleasing.

STRONG YOUNG CLUMPS, to flower this year, \$1.00 each.

DICENTRA SPECTABILIS ALBA.

This is the little known white flowered form of the well known Bleeding Heart. It is identical, save that, as is often the case with white flowered variations of brighter colored plants, it has a softer green foliage, and is not quite so strong in growth. It is at its best, in partial shade, or even on the north side of a building.

The flowers open clear white, but as they age they attain a sea-shell pink stage, that is particularly pleasing. As a horticultural rarity, the plant is of great interest. As a garden subject, it is a rarely beautiful and entirely charming gem.

STRONG TWO YEAR OLD PLANTS, - \$1.00 each.

CLEMATIS GRATA, COTE D' AZUR.

This Clematis is not a vine, nor even a sprawly plant like *Clematis recta*. Instead it is a sturdy affair, with pencil size stems to about five feet of height at best. A good clump may have eight or twelve such stems. Some support is best, tho if out of the wind, it isn't wholly needed. The foliage is good, a fairly bright green, and at its earlier stages of growth, the plant reminds one of a Japanese Anemone.

Flowering begins in August. The blooms are dark blue, in clusters of several flowers in the axils of the leaves, almost from the bottom of the plant to the top. Perhaps an inch long, they are tight little cylinders, that flare at the end. The whole effect is blue, really dark blue, and as a background plant in the border, they provide a shade that is lacking at that time. However, we have seen them used effectively as specimens on the lawn, and as centers for beds of annuals. Entirely hardy and long-lived.

HEAVY, TWO YEAR OLD CLUMPS, - \$1.50 each.

HARDY CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

In mid-winter, we are always a bit puzzled. At one moment, we are filled with anticipation of the spring flowers, now almost a twelve-month past. And that is followed by a wave of nostalgia for the gorgeous autumn color show afforded us by the Mums. It is at this time, that we determine anew to make the gardeners of the most northern states realize that there are Chrysanthemums that flower in September, before the hard frosts of October. Annually, we seem to fail, for too few people buy our mum plants. But we are not discouraged, and here again is a list of those sorts which can be had in flower this coming September, if planted in May. Won't you try them, please?

OUR PLANTS ARE GROWN IN 2" POTS, and are priced as follows.

35¢ each; 3(alike), 75¢; 5(alike), \$1.25; 10(alike), \$2.25. ALSO, -

any five, \$1.50; any ten, \$2.50; any twenty-five, \$6.00. *Postpaid

if your total order is \$5.00, or more. Otherwise, add 10%, and if you live West of the Mississippi River, add 15%.

ALGONQUIN. Loose yellow flower, of medium size, on a 2' stem.

AMELIA. This is the Azaleamum, or Pink Cushion. A compact plant about 18" high, covered with bright pink flowers, 2" wide.

AUTUMN LIGHTS. A glistening copper colored single, compact habit.

BARBARA CUMMING. Bronze-yellow, of good size; double; early-18".

EARLY BRONZE. A bright little bronze pompom, growing 15-18" tall.

EUGENE A. WANDER. Huge, sparkling bronzy-yellow. Earliest big Mum.

GOLDEN CUSHION. The yellow bronze Azaleamum. Extremely good.

KING CUSHION. The bronze Azaleamum. Husky and effective.

KING MIDAS. A magnificent large yellow. Very free flowering. 30".

LAVENDER LASSIE. Much like a lavender colored Azaleamum, tho a bit taller, and less compact. This is one of the choicest of all the September flowering Mums. Not over 2' tall, compact.

MILKY WAY. Soft yellow, changing to pure white. Double. Erect, 30".

NORTH STAR. The best single white, free and showy in late September. New last year, we cannot include this in the above price offers. It is 50¢ each, or at 45¢ in any combination above.

PYGMY GOLD. A very early, brilliant yellow pompom, only 15-18" tall.

QUEEN CUSHION. The white Azaleamum. Faintly tinted lavender.

SEMINOLE. Soft white flower, double, of good size, on 18" stems.

SEPTEMBER BRONZE. A rich bronze pompom, with the Azaleamum habit. Strong growing, and flowers very freely, from mid-September on.

SEPTEMBER CLOUD. A white counterpart of the preceding. 18-24".

SEPTEMBER GOLD. A fine golden yellow "Cushion Pompom".

VENUS. An orchid pink single, growing 30" tall, and flowering before the end of September.

Two outstanding Novelties, -con.

In the course of things, we brought some blooms home, and a friend in the vicinity, with a lot of hardy plant knowledge, was in and chanced to see them. He immediately commented on two facts that we consider noteworthy. First, the flower opens perfectly in most cases, whereas many seedling sorts will always produce blooms with one side bare of petals. And two, the bloom opens fully flat, to display the nicely filled center, whereas many sorts even including one named kind we have, do not fully unfold the petals, which turn upward at the end and seem always about to close up. Too, he spoke of the clearness of the color. And it was then that the plant was named for our friend had known "Snowflake" Bentley, and had seen the originals of many of the thousands of photo-micrographs of Vermont snowflake crystals made by that quiet genius in his hill home, and so he said, "It looks like a snowflake". And we said, "yes, a Blue Snowflake". And so it does for the conformations are those of a crystal, while the cool soft blue coloring is about what one would expect if there were blue snowflakes. It isn't a strong color, but there is enough of it to be of value with any other colors in a bouquet. It is cool on a hot day. At first opening the tiny anthers have a pinkish tone, which enriches the flower wonderfully, but as they age, the center becomes whiter. The blooms last remarkably well, especially if cut as soon as the first petal opens. The stems are long, and after the central flower has been taken, the two side buds usually open. And this we have found. If you will divide your plants about every other year, and see that they are not too crowded at the root, and will keep the blooms cut, they will flower all summer. This is because blooms come up from newly forming eyes on the crown. We do not know the size the plant will attain, but no doubt it will be a foot or more across. We had several plants in our own little garden, which had gotten to that size. Now that garden has been taken over by Hollyhocks (and weeds). Last winter it wasn't covered in any way, and this spring we found that field mice had eaten the crowns completely out of most of them. In spite of that, they all developed new tops and flowered well, late in summer.

Perhaps the best story we have, concerns the florist who came in one day in late August, and saw a small bed in bloom. They were all we had, and we refused to sell him any. Craftily, he placed an order for other things, to be picked up later in the day and on his return, finding he had another man to wait on him, he proceeded to walk out to the bed again, and to persuade the salesman to dig him a plant. Such persistence should have been rewarded.

Two outstanding Novelties,-con.

The other uncommon and interesting plant we offer, has a shorter story, tho it has a longer history. Bailey's Encyclopedia mentions a white form of the common Bleeding Heart. And, when we were starting in the work of growing plants, before World War 1, we possessed at least one catalog that listed it. But in the years that followed it apparently was lost in this country, and abroad. When we had attained our own place of business, and were planning its future, one night we drew up a list of the plants we wanted to obtain, and specialize in, and while that list has vanished, along with Trollius, and Adonis, and Anemones (to name a few), was White Bleeding Heart. And we searched for it, thru the medium of letters and in some of our early publications, until finally it was offered us from Michigan. But when the piece of root arrived, it was wrapped only in tissue paper, and was too dry ever to grow.

And then, probably from some similar contact in England, Amos Perry obtained a plant, and soon it was available there. As Quarantine 37 never had been kind to us, we decided to get a Canadian friend to import some plants, which he did, and then after they had been grown in Canadian soil for a while, we were able to have them inspected in the field, and bring them thru a port of entry, later to be inspected in our own cellar, and eventually to be placed in our beds. Our first propagations went well, and we thought we should soon have endless numbers, but we found we had merely been lucky, for the plant is not so strong as the common form, and cuttings do not grow readily. However, we have been able to grow it outside, with only the usual care and we now have a moderate number of field grown plants. In order to increase it in quantity, we shall have to wait until peace returns us some of our skilled men, and gives us time to 'fuss' with it. But once grown, it need have only moderate care in your garden. A bit more shade than you give the common sort, is indicated.

A year or more ago, roots of this form were sent to Dr. A. B. Stout, at the Bronx Botanic Garden, where they have grown and thrived. Dr. Stout was interested to use the plant in breeding experiments, and he succeeded in producing seed from it, and from crosses with it. His first results, as is usually the case, were not startling. But they proved that it was possible to produce seed, and with that start, we may now look for further changes in the color, with perhaps stronger growing whites, as the first result. We hope to tell you more about these plants of Dr. Stout's, next year.

THE PANICLED PHLOX.

Most of the improvement in this plant family, was by the hands of European plantsmen, but it is essentially American. Almost anywhere in this country, it can be grown well, for it is entirely hardy. Because it flowers during the heat of summer, and the large flower heads make heavy demands on the roots it should have extra water as the buds form and expand. Use some water too, in the form of a fine spray from below, to discourage red spider, and you will do much to obtain fine results. Mildew, which is also troublesome, is never so bad when the plants have adequate fertility, and ample moisture.

PRICED AT, - 35¢ each; 3 (alike), for \$1.00; 5 (alike), for \$1.50; 10 (alike), for \$2.50. PLEASE SEE POSTAGE NOTE ON PAGE ONE.

AFRICA. A fine deep scarlet sort, a strong grower, and one of the best of its color.

BANTAM. We had this from some friend, several years back, but have never seen it offered. In color, it is a deep cherry red. Despite the name, it is not a dwarf sort. Very permanent and has good foliage.

B. COMTE. Deep burgundy-red. A tall, strong growing sort, and one of the latest to flower.

CAROLINE VANDENBURG. Violet blue. A very good shade of this odd and occasionally trying color.

COLORADO. Scarlet red, with a pale crimson eye.

COLUMBIA. Soft cameo pink, a very beautiful shade. This is a patented variety and is priced at 50¢ each.

COUNT ZEPPELIN. A tall, strong growing sort, white with a bright red eye. One of the showiest in this particular combination.

DAILY SKETCH. Light salmon pink, with a carmine eye. The florets are large, making a very showy head of bloom.

ETHEL PRITCHARD. One of the older lavender sorts, and still very highly regarded by many authorities.

FIREBRAND. Brilliant scarlet, as the name would imply. A 'self'-colored sort, without any varying of the shade thruout the flower.

FRAU ANTON BUCHNER. When introduced, considered the best white of all. It is not too tall, with sturdy growth, and large, and exceptionally clear white flowers.

GEORGE STIPP. Glowing salmon red. A deep colored sort, with large individual flowers and heads.

JULES SANDEAU. Long our choice of all in the true rose shade. It is a rather dwarf sort, with stocky stems, and enormous trusses of flowers, while the individual florets are very large. Of easy culture, and control, but it is still tall enough to use in the mixed border.

LILLIAN. A soft pink, very much like Columbia, tho a bit more slender in its growth. As it is not patented, the price is moderate, and it gives the same garden effect.

LORD RALEIGH. A deeper lavender blue sort, without too much red in the color. Of moderate growth, but large florets and fine trusses of flowers.

THE PANICLED PHLOX.

LOUISE ABBEMA. A very dwarf, pure white variety. Fine in the foreground of the border.

MARIE LOUISE. Since we first saw this new sort, several years ago, we have thought it the finest white of all, and we unhesitatingly recommend it on all points.

MRS. JENKINS. A very tall white, with fine flowers. It is one of the first whites to flower in this group.

MRS. VAN BEUNINGEN. Salmon red. It is a strong, brightly colored sort, which behaves well, and always satisfies.

RHEINLANDER. A beautiful salmon pink, the deep shade so much desired, yet not so deep as to discolor on aging.

RYNSTROM. Rose pink. This is an old, very standard variety, of which one might say the same as to fastness of color, as has already been said of the preceding sort.

SALMON GLOW. This much resembles Jules Sandeau in growth and size characteristics, but the color is a glowing salmon instead of rose. One of the very best Phloxes.

SIR EDWIN LANDSEER. An older sort, now seldom seen. While the individual blooms are smaller than many new kinds, the heads are of good size. The color is a bright red (as reds go in Phlox). It is a consistently good performer, under all conditions.

SILVERTON. A clear pale lavender, of medium height, originating in Colorado.

VON HOCKBURG. A deep amaranthe red sort, much like B. Comte, but much earlier.

ASTER FRIKARTI.

This is the beautiful soft blue hardy Aster, growing not much more than two feet high, which follows the Phlox, and often is still flowering when the Mums open. We have some heavy, two year old plants to offer, for the first time in several years. 50¢ ea.

ASTILBE FANAL.

Among all the sorts of Herbaceous Spireas, as the Astilbes are sometimes called, this takes top place, and is the most popular. The color gives it its name, -Lighthouse-, and it truly lights the garden with its glowing red plumes. We have a fine lot of one year old clumps, at 50¢ each.

HEUCHERA LA PERLE.

When by error, we managed to get all our Coral Bells, on a soil that was too dry, a year or more back, this one sort held its own better than the rest, and when we reset them, this summer, it promptly grew into fine clumps. The color is a bright red, and if the stems are kept cut, and room for growth is provided, the plant will flower about all summer. 50¢ each.

PYRETHRUM VICTORIA.

This deep red colored Painted Daisy, is the only one of all our collection of named sorts, that is consistently hardy and good. A single, it still has much to commend it, and we have a fine lot of year old plants, at 35¢ each; 3 for \$1.00; 10 for \$2.50

PHLOX AND CHRYSANTHEMUMS.

If one were asked what flower will give the most midsummer color, grow only to a moderate height, be perfectly hardy, and free from most diseases and insect pests, there could be but one answer. For the Panicled Phlox will fit that description and it has unseen virtues as well, that aren't mentioned. One of them being, that almost anyone and any soil, will grow Phlox. Not but that they aren't best on a moderately fertile, deeply dug soil, not too wet and when given extra water at flowering time.

Now, this year we are told by those who should know, that Phlox plants are not plentiful. Well, we haven't got thousands of any one sort, but we have got a lot of kinds, and a lot of plants of most of them. During the past year, we had an eye out for Phlox, and as a result, we found them in unusual places, and brought them in. Just check the list in this Gossip, with those in most other catalogs. Not all sorts are good everywhere, and if you have been wanting some kind that does well near you, or one that you used to have, very likely we have it.

When midsummer comes, and the nights are warm (and the days hot), the scent of Phlox on the evening breeze will cool you. And if its color you want in daylight, here are countless kinds and variations.

Then in September, the Chrysanthemum should come into its own. All of the earlier sorts failed to flower early enough for us to be of any real garden value here. Then the Azaleamum came along, and shortly after Alex Cumming began sending out earlier sorts, so that now, we can look for flowers from September 15-20, on till frost, and even later for most of these sorts will resist a slight freeze. Most of these sorts are perfectly hardy too, tho none will stand wet conditions in winter. But it should be better understood that the old clump is of little value the succeeding year, and that the best blooms will come from small potted plants, or from single strong divisions taken from the old clumps. So that if your plants have even a small shoot alive in the spring, you can have as good a display again in the fall, if you'll baby that shoot a little.

Cuttings made in the greenhouse in April, and potted into small pots, with one pinch, will make the best display in fall. They need only one more strong pinching back after planting, a fertile soil, and some water. Don't let Aphid get thick, and don't crowd them, and you'll have a fall display you will remember all winter.

THIS CHANGING (NURSERY) WORLD.

Under such a heading, one could philosophize to an unreasonable limit. But it is actually inspired by a letter that came in just the other day from our good friend that we've never met, -Fred J. Borsch, of the well known Pacific Coast firm of Wm. Borsch & Son. It said, -"I've sold the nursery". And that reminded us that late last spring a letter sent to the Mountain View Nurseries, at Ayer's Cliff, Quebec, was answered from Ancaster, Ontario, to tell us that another good friend, whom we have known personally for many years, had moved, -lock, stock, and barrel.

Many of you who read this, will have dealt with the one, or visited the other. Or perhaps you have known both. Fred Borsch had reached the status of a friend long before we began calling him by his first name thru the mails, because of his willingness to help out with plants or information at any time, and particularly do we recall his willingness to trade facts concerning his affairs during that period not so far past, when it didn't seem that we could be doing the right thing, or else we wouldn't have so many plants to plow under, or so little money to do it with. It was balm to our weary souls, as well as a boost to our ego, to find that he too, had these troubles. Much as we regret his move, which is a well justified one, we are glad to know that the business will be carried on by former employees, and that Fred hasn't dropped his interest in plants, entirely, just a lightening of the load.

Arthur Emberley has not changed, we venture, only moved his nursery. We can't but wonder if there will be a mountain to 'view' at Ancaster, -there certainly wasn't at Ayer's Cliff, -but we feel sure that any plant lover who finds himself in Toronto with time to spare, should look him up, for there will be plants to view, anyway. It was on his swamp hillside, that we once saw *Meconopsis baileyi*, and other species growing, -not one or two, or even twenty-two, but hundreds and hundreds. It is to be doubted that any similar display could be found anywhere else in America. A new plant to us is a terrible temptation; to him it was an irresistible attraction!

We have no moral to draw, from these changes. In fact the major reason for including word of them here, was that we felt that many of you, knowing these men, would like to know about them. But it does give us a chance to pay our respects to them both, and to thank them for the many fine plants which they have called to our attention. We have drawn heavily on their knowledge in the past. But, like all plant lovers worthy of the name, they gave freely and gladly. Let us all continue to deal together in that spirit.

LILIES.

There isn't the long list of varieties available this spring, largely because of the exceedingly fine demand for our bulbs last fall. But what we have to offer are of the same good quality as always, and, with good culture, should flower this summer. PLEASE NOTE, -these prices include delivery, only if your entire order totals \$5.00 or more. Otherwise, please add 10%, and, if you live West of the Mississippi River, 15%.

TENUIFOLIUM. The Coral Lily. Bright scarlet flowers of what is often called turks-cap form, some two inches across, in good numbers at the top of a two or three foot stem, in late June and July. They should be scattered generously thruout the border to add brightness to sections not in flower at that time.

FLOWERING SIZE BULBS, -15¢ each; 10 for \$1.25

TOP SIZE BULBS, - 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.00.

REGALE. The Regal Lily. Broadly flaring trumpets, some five inches long, brown outside, and white with a yellow throat inside. Intensely fragrant. The stems arch, rather than growing stiffly erect, and the foliage is narrow, and plentiful. The usual flowering period is from June 25, to July 5, in this section.

FLOWERING SIZE BULBS, 4/6" cir. 25¢ each; 10 for \$2.25.

STRONG FLOWERING SIZE, 6/8" cir. 40¢ each.

PRINCEPS. This Lily derives from the Geo. C. Creelman Lily, and has both regale and sargentiae blood. It is a well fixed strain quite a typical Regal in appearance, tho somewhat stronger in growth. The blossoming period is just slightly later than that of the Regal Lily, and it nicely prolongs the season.

FLOWERING SIZE BULBS, 4/6" cir. 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00.

STRONG FLOWERING SIZE, 6/8" cir. 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50.

PRIDE OF CHARLOTTE. This Lily is a clone; that is, all the bulbs are exactly alike as the plants are grown from small bulbils which form on the stems, as they do on the Tiger Lily. It is a very fine form, much like the Regal Lily, but the blooms are longer, and are greenish-brown outside. It flowers much later than the Regal.

FLOWERING SIZE BULBS, 4/6" cir. 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50

PRIDE SEEDLINGS. These were raised by the late Alexander Graham, at Shelburne Farms, and tho by him believed to be from seeds that had not been cross-fertilized, their nature shows such evidence of outside influence, that we feel sure he was in error. While the flowers greatly resemble the true Pride of Charlotte, they do not open evenly, and there are other characteristics that differ. It is one of the latest flowering strains, and is entirely worthwhile in any garden.

FLOWERING SIZE BULBS, 4/6" cir. 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00.

SHELburne HYBRIDS. It was Alexander Graham, wandering thru the greenhouse gardens at Shelburne Farms one evening, who found a bloom of *Lilium sargentiae* opened a bit early, and transferred to it some pollen from a late opening *Lilium regale*. This cross is the reverse of the one which produced *Lilium princeps*. The resulting strain of Lillies, is noted for vigor, for later flowering, and as well for the diversity of forms, and great variation in flowering times. There are blooms like the Regal, and others like those of Sargent's Lily. And they begin flowering with Regal, and continue sometimes into August.

FLOWERING SIZE BULBS, 4/6" cir. 35¢ each; 10 for \$3.00

STRONG FLOWERING SIZE, 6/8" cir. 50¢ each; 10 for \$4.50

NOT NEW, BUT EXCEEDINGLY GOOD.

WHAT'S NEW?

DIANTHUS WINTERI.

The three varieties of this Pink that we offer are all fine plants, of compact habit and restrained growth, yet in no sense are they dwarfed. The flowers are of good size, and the colors are clear and distinct. They are fragrant, and though not everblooming, they are in flower much of the summer.

MEG GARDNER. The tallest sort, and of erect habit. Blooms white with a crimson eye.

MRS. BACK. A less erect form. White flowers and distinct crimson eye.

MRS. WORMALD. Bright pink, with a distinct crimson center.

THE ABOVE ARE 35¢ each; 3 (of one variety), \$1.00; 5 (alike), \$1.50

DORONICUMS.

Plants for the early spring garden, usually of easiest culture. We offer three species, each distinct.

CAUCASICUM. The earliest to bloom. Two inch wide, single yellow daisies on a two foot high stem.

CORDIFOLIUM. Entirely distinct, for this is a low plant, to not much over one foot of height. The yellow daisies are an inch or more across, but are in an umbel, rather than singly as is usually the case with the larger sorts.

MME. MASON. This form has displaced the variety plantagineum excelsum, which it greatly resembles, due to its much easier culture. The color of the flowers is deeper yellow than the preceding, and they are larger and more double.

THE ABOVE ARE 35¢ each; 3 (of one variety), \$1.00; 5 (alike), \$1.50

HELONIAS BULLATA.

This is the Swamp-Pink, a member of the Lily family, which is found in bogs from New Jersey, south, being quite plentiful in the Pine Barren area. The leaves are a foot long, and an inch or two wide, from a cluster of tuberous roots. The bare stem is hollow, and may be two feet tall, topped with a dense cluster of pink or purple flowers. While listed as a bog plant, and at home in our shade bower, in damp soil, it grew and flowered easily in almost full sun, and quite dry, but cool, loam. 50¢ each.

PANSIES.

Despite a heavy demand all thru the fall shipping period, we still have a fine lot of SWISS GIANT PANSIES. The plants were in bloom, when the first snows came, and are now protected with Pine boughs, which make the finest cover. We find it necessary to increase the price of these plants somewhat for spring, due to their size, and the increasing difficulty of obtaining suitable packaging material. But we assure you of fine quality, well worth the slight extra cost.

ALPENGLOW. Rich wine-red shades.

BERNA. Dark violet blue.

LAKE OF THUN. (Thuner Sea). Rich deep ultramarine blue.

CORONATION GOLD. Rich golden yellow.

PURE YELLOW. A somewhat softer shade.

MIXED. In all the above colors and varieties.

ALL PANSIES are, 10 for 75¢; 100 for \$6.00.

As a matter of fact, very little. 1944 seems to have brought an unusually small crop of new plants to interest us. This is understandable of course. The supply of new things, the world over, is really becoming smaller. The hybridists help us, by their work with the larger plant families but they, like more common mortals, were so busy keeping ahead of the weeds, that it is hardly likely they had time for much else. Certainly we didn't have time to do more than cast a casual eye, at some of our pet projects.

In the past, we could obtain from the Plant Introduction Gardens of the Dep't. of Agriculture, many things which their scientists and collectors were sending in from all over the world, and it was in this way that we obtained the forms of the Spice Pinks, known as Dianthus winteri. These three sorts were obtained from an English firm, who named them. It won't do to call them new, for we offered them several years ago, but after letting the stock get low, we did manage to increase them again last year, and had a splendid display of blooms as recompense. These aren't Carnations, far from it! They are simply fine types of Dianthus plumarius, compact plants of good habit, very floriferous, and with bright clear colors, and a fine fragrance. When side by side with seedling forms, their superiority is easily seen.

We offered Lemoines' Clematis grata hybrids a few years back, and shortly after we lost control of two of the varieties. Only one continues to do well for us, and that grows superbly. As a tall, blue flowered plant, for the background of the border in late summer, there is nothing better.

We hope to be able to offer this fall, three new Violas, disseminated by the Vermont State Agricultural College. Two of them are distinct in every way, being neither Violas or Violets, in the commonly used sense of these terms, while the third is an improvement over the ordinary Sweet Violet. We have good stocks, already, but preferred to wait until there were more, and the price could be reasonable.

Among the shrubs, we have good words for two that we have previously offered. If you have trouble getting ordinary Forsythia to flower, try F. giraldiana. Last spring, it bloomed for us, while F. intermedia was barren down to the snow line. But the prize award continues to go to the Dwarf Arctic Willow, which, either as a loose or as a clipped formal hedge, is the most attractive thing we have seen, and so easy to grow. You should still plant Barberry, to deter dogs, or Privet if you want a fence. But if you want a beautiful enclosure for a garden or a lawn, try this new Willow.

THE MANAGER'S DESK.

A year ago, my message to you seemed to warrant a place on page 1. Looking back now, it seems it might as well have been put in its proper place, at the very end. But there was so much uncertainty, both for the moment, and for the future, that it overshadowed all else.

Then, before spring really came, I recalled the words of a Yankee farmer who had not always known what the end would be either. We stood on his porch one fall day looking out across his fields sloping to a swamp, and I noted where he had started to plow and inquired how much he intended to break up. When he had shown what the limits were to be, I said, "It's getting late, do you suppose you'll get it done before cold weather?" "Maybe not," was the reply, "but I like to set my stakes and plow to them."

And so, we set our stakes. We planned all the things we had to do, and did as much of them as we could, as well as we could, before we had to drop the one and turn to the next. As a result, while we had some failures, we grew a surprising amount of everything. We did devote all the necessary time to our food crops, so that whether anything else grew or not, we could be sure of those. Then we transplanted and reset the more valuable items which were in the weeds after 1943's rainy summer. Came fall, and we turned to the harvesting, and not one crop but was handled in time and to the full. Not only that, but we dug thousands of Lilies and other bulbs, and reset the thousands of smaller ones, left after grading out the salable ones. And when winter came, we could say that while we hadn't quite reached the stakes, we never really expected to, and had come closer than we even hoped. Not but that there are fields that weren't weeded, and rows that weren't cultivated. But not so many as we expected and feared last March.

Most of the credit should go to the four long time employees who returned in the spring and who are being kept busy all this winter. Then too, there is another who worked at night elsewhere, and who more than once went a full thirtysix hours without sleep to help with pressing work. To all those others who helped, thanks, too. And if the year taught anything, it was never to consider a task impossible. We can't hope that the coming year will be easier, nor have less problems. But we aren't afraid of it, nor them. We'll just set our stakes and plow to them!

GARDENSIDE
NURSERIES, INC.
SHELBURNE, VERMONT

SHRUBS AND EVERGREENS.

We can only ship such material of all kinds, as can be packed in cardboard cartons, or baled in burlap. New wooden cases may not be used, and the supply of used ones is almost nil. The following sorts can be so packed, and are offered for shipment by express. Please note that we charge for packing, and do not prepay charges.

DAPHNE MEZEREUM ALBUM.

The rare white flowered form of the Mezereon Daphne, which has yellow fruit, instead of red. Some smaller plants are available this year, 6/8" high, at \$1.00 each.

FORSYTHIA GIRALDIANA.

This uncommon Golden-Bell, has soft yellow flowers, and is an erect shrub to ten feet at best. It is reputedly hardier in bud than any other sort, and should have a place in any planting for that reason. The foliage is extremely good, thruout the season. HEAVY PLANTS, 5/6' high, \$2.00 each

SALIX PURPUREA NANA.

We consider this the finest new hedge plant, both for clipped formal hedges, or for loose natural growth. It grows easily in any good soil, and is particularly good in damp locations, where other hedge materials suffer. It is a graceful shrub when used alone, and as it will grow in shade, it can be used in house plantings, in difficult locations.

HEDGE GRADES, 12/18" tall, 30¢ each; 10 for \$2.50; 100 for \$15.

WEIGELA BRISTOL RUBY.

We were among the first to test this new red Weigela for hardiness and satisfactory growth. It survived fall planting, in a dry location, and gave a good account of itself the next year, which almost no other Weigela will do here. As the plant matures, it becomes even more pleasing, and we are sure that one should be in every mixed shrub planting.

FIELD GROWN PLANTS, 18/24", \$1.25 each; 5 for \$6.00.

APPLE NEWFANE.

It will be many years before this new Apple has been fully tested. But we are so convinced of its value as a midwinter variety, that we are planting it in our young orchards. It is at its best at Christmas, and is of the delicious shape, with a spicier and sweeter McIntosh flavor. The color is deep red, and in our experience, it is always a beautiful fruit. \$2.00 each.

PLUM STANLEY.

Quite the best of the newer Plums, this is a fruit of the Prune class and shape, blue, and sweet and rich. It cans to make an excellent sauce, and it is equally good to eat fresh. The tree is hardy, and free of disease. \$1.50 each.

PICEA GLAUCA CONICA.

The handsomest and best behaved of all dwarf Spruce. A fine lawn specimen, and interesting in the front of a foundation planting. Our plants have increased in size the past year, and we offer, -FINE SPECIMENS, 12/18" tall, \$2.50 each.
